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JUL 07 2008

60,469-253
OT-5210

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Miller, Robin Mihekun
Serial Number: 10/565,382
Filed: 01/20/2006
Group Art Unit: 3654
Examiner: Pico, Eric E.
Title: ELEVATOR ASSEMBLY WITH EXTENDABLE SILL

REQUEST TO WITHDRAW NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully submits that the Notice of Abandonment mailed on June 27, 2008 is improper and should be withdrawn. The Notice of Abandonment fails to acknowledge the After Final Amendment filed by Applicant on February 11, 2008. A copy of that Amendment, including the Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission Receipt from the Patent Office, is attached as Exhibit A.

Subsequent to the Notice of Appeal filed by Applicant on October 29, 2007 and the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review mailed on January 9, 2008, Applicant's representative conducted an interview with the Examiner to discuss the Allowability of this case based on the indication of allowable subject matter as indicated on the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review. During that interview, the Examiner indicated that the case would be allowed if claims were amended as they are presented in the After Final Amendment filed on February 11, 2008 (Exhibit A).

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Given that Applicant has one month to submit an Appeal Brief or otherwise proceed with this application in response to the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review, the After Final Amendment filed on February 11, 2008 was timely. As indicated by the Examiner during the interview with Applicant's representative, that amendment places this case in condition for allowance. That amendment should be entered and this case should be allowed. The Notice of Abandonment should be withdrawn.

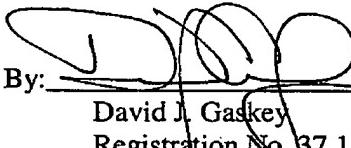
Additionally, Applicant was entitled to request extensions up until July 9, 2008 for purposes of filing an Appeal Brief or otherwise proceeding with this application. Therefore, even if Applicant had not filed the After Final Amendment (Exhibit A), the Notice of Abandonment was premature and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Notice of Abandonment is in order.

Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS

By: 

David J. Gaskey
Registration No. 37,139
400 W. Maple Rd., Ste. 350
Birmingham, MI 48009
(248) 988-8360

Dated: July 7, 2008

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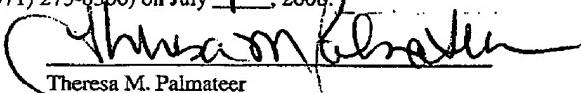
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this Request, relative to Application Serial No. 10,565,382 is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (571) 273-8300) on July 7, 2008.



Theresa M. Palmateer

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Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission



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60469-253 OT-S210					
<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>					
Applicant:	Miller, Robin Mihekun				
Serial Number:	10/565,382				
Filed:	01/20/2006				
Group Art Unit:	3654				
Examiner:	Pico, Eric E.				
Title:	ELEVATOR ASSEMBLY WITH EXTENDABLE SILL				
<u>AFTER FINAL AMENDMENT</u>					
<p>Mail Stop AP Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p> <p>Dear Sir:</p> <p>Applicant submit this paper following the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review mailed on January 9, 2008.</p> <p>Please amend the application as indicated in the amendments to the claims that begin on Page 2 of this response.</p> <p>Remarks begin on Page 7.</p>					

EXHIBIT A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Miller, Robin Mihekun
Serial Number: 10/565,382
Filed: 01/20/2006
Group Art Unit: 3654
Examiner: Pico, Eric E.
Title: ELEVATOR ASSEMBLY WITH EXTENDABLE SILL

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AFTER FINAL AMENDMENT

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this paper following the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review mailed on January 9, 2008.

Please amend the application as indicated in the amendments to the claims that begin on Page 2 of this response.

Remarks begin on Page 7.



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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An elevator assembly comprising an elevator door mounted for movement relative to a car frame; a sill supported by said car frame wherein said sill moves from a retracted position to an extended position when said elevator door is initially aligned with a landing door; and a locking mechanism for selectively locking said sill to said landing structure, wherein the elevator door is prevented from moving from a closed position unless the sill is locked to the landing structure.
2. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said sill extends outwardly from underneath said elevator door along a generally linear path to engage a landing structure.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said locking mechanism comprises an actuator, an arm having a hook portion, and a pin mounted to said landing structure wherein said actuator actuates said hook portion to selectively engage said pin to secure said sill to said landing structure.

5. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 4 including An elevator assembly comprising:

an elevator door mounted for movement relative to a car frame;
a sill supported by said car frame wherein said sill moves from a retracted position
to an extended position when said elevator door is initially aligned with a landing door;

a locking mechanism for selectively locking said sill to said landing,
wherein said locking mechanism comprises an actuator, an arm having a hook portion, and a pin
mounted to said landing structure wherein said actuator actuates said hook portion to selectively
engage said pin to secure said sill to said landing structure; and

a door moving mechanism having a lock position where said elevator door and landing
door are prevented from opening and a release position where said elevator door and landing
door are allowed to move from a closed position to an open position wherein said door moving
mechanism does not switch to said release position until said hook portion securely engages said
pin.

6. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 4, wherein said actuator comprises an electric motor.

7. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, including an actuator and locking mechanism having an electromagnet mounted for movement with a shaft driven by a solenoid for selectively engaging a magnet target mounted to a hoistway wall to lock said car frame in position relative to said landing structure once said elevator door is aligned with said landing door.

8. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1 including a track supporting said elevator door for movement between open and closed positions, said track including a first track portion and a second track portion that is non-parallel to said first track portion; and

a seal positioned between said elevator door and said car frame wherein said door applies a compressive sealing force against said seal as said door moves from said first track portion to said second track portion.

9. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 8, wherein said sill moves at a first extension speed and said elevator door extends outwardly away from said car frame at a second speed slower than said first speed to release compression on said seal.

10. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said sill comprises a generally flat plate presenting a continuous unbroken surface that extends from the car frame to a landing structure.

11. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said sill extends outwardly from underneath a car floor and is movable along a linear path toward a landing structure and along a rotational path to automatically adjust for misalignment between said car floor and said landing structure.

12. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said sill is pivotally mounted to a car floor and pivots away from said elevator door to engage the landing structure.

13. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, including an actuator and locking mechanism having at least one solenoid with an extendable shaft and a locking element mounted for movement with said shaft wherein said solenoid inserts said locking element through an opening in a hoistway wall with said locking element subsequently moving from an unlocked position to a locked position to prevent relative movement between said car frame and said hoistway wall.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for opening an elevator door assembly comprising the steps of:

aligning an elevator door with a landing door;
extending a sill from underneath the elevator door to engage a landing structure;

and

locking the sill to the landing structure; and
opening the elevator and landing doors subsequent to the locking.

15. Cancelled.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 including A method for opening an elevator door assembly comprising the steps of:

aligning an elevator door with a landing door;
extending a sill from underneath the elevator door to engage a landing structure;
locking the sill to the landing structure; and
releasing a door moving mechanism only after the sill is securely locked to the landing structure.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 including engaging a hook supported for movement with the sill to a pin mounted to the landing structure to lock the sill to the landing structure.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 including positioning a seal between the elevator door and a car frame; supporting the elevator door on a track for movement relative to the car frame between open and closed positions; and compressing the seal between the elevator door and the car frame as the door moves from a first track portion to a second track portion that is non-parallel to the first track portion.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 including initially moving the elevator door and the sill in a first direction outwardly away from the car frame once the elevator and landing doors are aligned, continuing to move the sill in the first direction until the sill engages the landing structure, and subsequently moving the elevator door in a second direction parallel to the car frame after the sill is locked to the landing structure.
20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 including unlocking the sill from the landing structure in response to a request to move the elevator door to a different landing door.
21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the sill comprises a plate presenting a continuous unbroken surface and including moving the sill along a generally linear path extending from the elevator door to the landing door, and completely bridging an operating gap formed between the elevator and landing doors with the plate.
22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the sill comprises a plate mounted to a car floor and including pivoting the plate away from the elevator door to engage the landing structure.
23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 including vertically adjusting the position of the sill relative to the landing structure to accommodate misalignment between a car floor and the landing structure.
24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, including simultaneously rotating the sill and moving the sill in a linear direction toward the landing structure.
25. Cancelled.

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 25, which is indicated as being allowable in the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review. Claim 5, which is indicated as being allowable in the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review, is rewritten in independent form. Claim 14 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 15, which is indicated as being allowable in the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review. Claim 15 is cancelled. Claim 16, which is indicated as being allowable in the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review, is rewritten in independent form. Claim 25 is cancelled.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to their representative during the recent interview regarding this case. During that interview, the Examiner indicated that this application would be allowed if Applicants amend the claims as done above.

Applicants are entitled to have Claims 7 and 13, which were previously withdrawn from consideration, included in this case as they each depend from an allowable claim.

Given that all remaining independent claims were indicated as allowable, this case is in condition for allowance.

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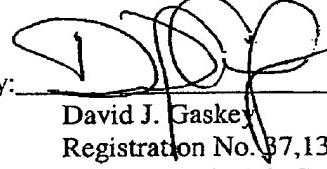
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Applicant believes that additional fees in the amount of \$210.00 are required for one additional independent claim. A credit card payment form is attached. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS

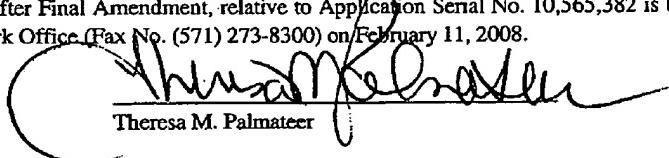
By: 

David J. Gaskey
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400 W. Maple Rd., Ste. 350
Birmingham, MI 48009
(248) 988-8360

Dated: February 11, 2008

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this After Final Amendment, relative to Application Serial No. 10,565,382 is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (571) 273-8300) on February 11, 2008.


Theresa M. Palmateer

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